

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
Minutes of Rossford City Council Meeting
Held January 26, 2009

The meeting was called to order by Mayor William Verbosky Jr. and was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: Richards, Oberdorf, Eckel, Marquette, Hermes, Michaels, and Kovach all present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Approval of regular council meeting minutes of January 12, 2009. Mr. Oberdorf moved and Mr. Richards seconded the motion to approve the minutes. All ayes. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Agenda for regular council meeting of January 26, 2009 was presented to council. Reports from the Economic Development, Public Safety, and Marina committees and an executive session to discuss the purchase of tangible personal property were added. Mr. Richards moved and Mr. Marquette seconded the motion to approve the agenda as amended. All ayes. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Kovach presented the Economic Development committee minutes of January 20, 2009 (see attached minutes). Mayor Verbosky commented that the Design Review Commission was required to be part of our municipal code in order to be considered for the downtown grant application. Since the grant was never applied for we never actively pursued creating the commission or appointing members. He believes the RBA would be the proper conduit for a Convention/Visitors Bureau and/or the Design Review Commission. Mr. Miller has been very active as president of the RBA and that a forum being held next month will discuss promoting the Crossroads as a branded district. Mayor Verbosky said if a grant was applied for the district cannot be the entire city. Mrs. Eckel asked when the forum is and was told it will be held on February 26th at 6:00pm in the upstairs conference room at Bass Pro. The media was encouraged to let people know the city is looking for potential applicants for the commission.

Mr. Richards presented a verbal report of the Public Safety committee minutes of January 26, 2009 as copier was down and said he will provide written minutes. He said the committee discussed various fire levy proposals and that legislation will be proposed at the next council meeting.

Mr. Michaels presented the Marina committee minutes of January 20, 2009 (see attached minutes). Mr. Richards noted that the procedure for changes is that the committee recommends and council approves. Mr. Michaels said the committee is recommending the hours be changed. Mayor Verbosky said council will approve the marina rules as a whole. Mrs. Eckel said council previously approved an additional 570 cubic yards and now is asked to approve a total of 1317c.y. A discussion ensued involving Mrs. Eckel, Mr. Hermes, Mr. Michaels, and Mr. Ciecka regarding how the amount removed was arrived at. Mayor Verbosky said council is being asked to either approve an additional 181c.y. or 747 c.y. or none of the above. Mr. Hermes asked if the committee recommended doing this and was told no. Mr. Hermes said he is in favor of paying them nothing. Mr. Oberdorf said the committee discussed doing what was in the best interest of the city. Mr. Michaels said the questions were did the contractor do the work and did the city benefit and the answer to both questions was yes. Mr. Marquette said council approved an additional 570 c.y. and then they came back and said took out 751 c.y. now saying that after soundings they took out 1317 c.y. He feels they should find some room to give us a break in cost since this was their error in exceeding the amount authorized. Mrs. Eckel feels that this was the contractor's mistake. Mr. Ciecka said the contractor explanation referenced a one foot limit overage based on Army Corps of Engineers standards. Mr. Hermes said the Geo. Gradel Co. has been around since 1903 and they should know how to estimate. He does not feel we should pay for their error again as we have already agreed to pay for one. Mr. Richards said the city did benefit from the additional removal but agreed they messed up and it should be their problem. However since we benefitted we should be able to negotiate some compromise amount. Mayor Verbosky said it appears that council would like some compromise #.

***Mr. Marquette moved and Mr. Richards seconded the motion to have the marina committee come back to council with a recommended amount. All ayes. Motion carried.

In regards to marina guards Mr. Kovach asked if we have liability if no guards and what a 12 hour shift would be. Mr. Ciecka said all boaters would be notified in advance of the days and hours of marina guard coverage and Mr. Michaels said the 12 hour day would be from 6pm. to 6am.

Mr. Oberdorf moved and Mr. Richards seconded the motion to approve the committee reports as given. All ayes. Motion carried.

REPORT OF MAYOR AND/OR ADMINISTRATOR

Mayor Verbosky said the RBA will meet tomorrow at 12:00 at Wayward Inn. He noted that Police Chief Vespi has returned to work full-time.

Mr. Ciecka said Chief Vespi returned to work on the 22nd. He said he had met with the county engineer and other affected parties regarding the Buck Rd. /Lime City intersection and that the county engineer has expressed concern over the cost escalation of the project and is considering getting this project to shovel ready stage and then stopping the project until a source of funding is found. The next meeting on this will be in mid-February. He said he had met with the Ohio EPA regarding sewer overflows and said we can anticipate receiving a finding and orders to resolve. At that point we will then negotiate a timetable to get resolved. He is also working on reviewing and submitting our 5 year storm water plan. He noted that he had talked to the public safety committee earlier this evening on opening up negotiations on the dispatching contract, that he anticipated a formal response from the NWSA in late February, and that over the next couple of weeks he and the budget committee will be reviewing the budget and anticipated revenues due to growing concern over revenue projections. He said he has already been notified that our share of local government funds is being cut by \$15,000. Mayor Verbosky said that we have already lost two stores in the Crossroads. Mr. Hermes said the city will not have any funds to assist in paying for the roundabout project. Mr. Ciecka said no proposal has been received from the county engineer on the sharing of local cost. ¾ of the intersection is inside the city but this is being driven by components outside the city. It may be that the project is put on hold. Mr. Michaels asked if there has been an increase of complaints or in accidents at the Buck Rd. Lime City intersection. Mr. Ciecka said no increase in complaints has been noted and he didn't know about accidents. Mayor Verbosky said the police chief will be asked to pull the accident reports. Mr. Marquette said he hasn't noticed a hugh increase in cars waiting at the stop signs and our tax dollars could be spent better elsewhere. Mrs. Eckel asked if any traffic studies had been done on volume since Penta opened and Mr. Ciecka said he did not believe so. She would be interested in seeing the volume and wait time for various times.

CORRESPONDENCE

None

ORDINANCES

None

RESOLUTIONS

#2009-05 – A RESOLUTION DECLARING THAT THE AMOUNT OF TAXES THAT MAY BE RAISED BY A LEVY AT THE MAXIMUM RATE AUTHORIZED BY LAW WITHOUT A VOTE OF THE ELECTORS IS INSUFFICIENT, AND DECLARING THE NECESSITY OF A RENEWAL LEVY FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OR ACQUISITION OF IMPROVEMENTS FOR RECREATIONAL PURPOSES IN EXCESS OF THAT RATE, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Oberdorf moved and Mr. Richards seconded the motion to read by title only. All ayes. Motion carried. Mr. Ciecka said the certificate of valuation has been received from the auditor which shows \$43,998 would be expected if the levy is renewed. Mr. Michaels asked if these renewals will generate the same amounts as currently collected and was told by Mr. Ciecka that amounts are slightly above five years ago and that the recreation committee did not recommend these be replacement levies. Mr. Hermes noted these need to be passed at the February 9th council meeting to be on the ballot in May. This was given a first reading only.

#2009-06 - A RESOLUTION DECLARING THAT THE AMOUNT OF TAXES THAT MAY BE RAISED BY A LEVY AT THE MAXIMUM RATE AUTHORIZED BY LAW WITHOUT A VOTE OF THE ELECTORS IS INSUFFICIENT, AND DECLARING THE NECESSITY OF A RENEWAL LEVY FOR RECREATIONAL PURPOSES IN EXCESS OF THAT RATE, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mayor Verbosky said this is a renewal request for recreational purposes. Mr. Oberdorf moved and Mr. Hermes seconded the motion to read by title only. All ayes. Motion carried. Mayor Verbosky said this renewal request is for recreational purposes. This was given a first reading only.

COUNCIL REMARKS

Mr. Oberdorf asked if there was any need for a committee of the whole meeting.

***Mr. Richards moved and Mr. Kovach seconded the motion to suspend with the February committee of the whole meeting. All ayes. Motion carried.

Mr. Oberdorf noted that he had the honor of representing the city at the opening of the 61st Eagles Bowling Tournament being held this year at Interstate Lanes. He said over 6000 people are expected in the next 12 weeks.

Mr. Richards said he does not feel we are being provided with adequate service by First Energy. He has noted many street lights out that are not being replaced. Mr. Oberdorf did note a positive experience with First Energy where they came out at 2 a.m. and worked through the night to rectify an electrical outage at his residence.

AUDIENCE REMARKS

Pam Simenski, 194 Hannum, Rossford said that over half of the street lights on the Crossroads Parkway are not on at night. Mayor Verbosky said the city is aware of that problem and has notified First Energy.

Glenn Goss, Dixie Highway, Rossford, said he had provided a list to Lisa of over 40 street light outages to send to First Energy. He has a concern about kids, injuries, and vandalism at the marina if no marina guards are on duty. He asked if the Public Safety committee had met with the police chief on a possible public safety levy and was told by Mr. Richards that a public safety levy was considered but that a legal opinion indicates that only townships can do joint fire/police public safety levies. He said the public safety committee will be discussing a possible police levy during the summer and police needs. Mayor Verbosky said the city will need to look at the 3.5mill levy next year and determine what needs to be done based on economic conditions of the city.

Jeff Appelhans, Hannum Ave., Rossford, asked who is responsible for setting the new poles at the marina and was told the Geo. Gradel Co. as part of the original bid. He noted that at some times it appeared the barge was sitting on the bottom of the marina and this may have caused them to remove too much sediment. He registered a complaint on city follow-up of problems using the recent article in the Record regarding Wendy's not following their landscaping plan as an example. Mayor Verbosky said the city is looking at requiring a bond to be posted upfront to insure that landscaping plans are adhered too. Mr. Appelhans asked if the change to marina guard hours is a temporary one year plan or permanent. Mayor Verbosky said it would be looked at year to year.

Mr. Marquette moved and Mr. Richards seconded the motion to go into executive session. All ayes. Motion carried.

Mr. Richards moved and Mr. Oberdorf seconded the motion to return to regular session. All ayes. Motion carried.

Mr. Richards moved and Mr. Oberdorf seconded the motion to adjourn. All ayes. Motion carried.

William Verbosky Jr.
Mayor

Robert P. Watrol
Clerk of Council